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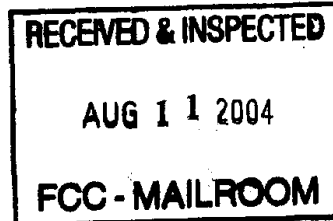


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Notice of Oral *Ex Parte* Presentation

August 5, 2004

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.,  
Washington, DC 20554



Re: In the Matters of Review of the Section 251 Unbundling Obligations of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers, CC Docket No. 01-338, and Petition of Verizon Telephone Companies for Declaratory Ruling, or, Alternatively, for Interim Waiver with Regard to Broadband Services via Fiber to the Premises, WC Docket No. 04-242

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On July 29, on behalf of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the undersigned visited Commissioner Martin and legal assistant, Mr. Daniel Gonzales, along with Ms. Mary Vermeer Andringa, a member of the NAM Board of Directors and President and CEO of Vermeer Manufacturing Company, Pella Iowa; and Mr. Timothy Regan, Vice President, Corning, Incorporated.

The group emphasized that about 50 percent of the expense incurred by telecommunications carriers in installing new local plant comes in the construction-related expenses of trenching and tunneling; about 30 percent in electronics, software, and controls; and only about 20 percent in the cabling, outside hardware, and engineering. As a supplier of trenching and tunneling equipment to the contractors that lay cable for telecommunications carriers, Mrs. Andringa noted that a clear turn-around has occurred from the slump in the telecommunications industry which had forced her to reduce employment. Vermeer has hired back about 150 people in Iowa.

The group encouraged the Commission to conclude outstanding items not yet formally taken up in the reconsideration proceeding, as previously urged by the High-Tech Broadband Coalition (of which the NAM is one of the six members), and also urged favorable treatment of the Verizon petition. Mrs. Andringa left behind copies of the enclosed material.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Peyton".

David Peyton

Enclosures

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